

Carrick Primary School



First Aid and Medication Policy

December 2023

Carrick Primary School

Vision Statement

Forward Together: Ar aghaidh le chéile.

Mission Statement

In Carrick Primary School we aim to provide a safe, caring and stimulating environment, in which to realise and celebrate the academic and non-academic potential of all our pupils. We expect our pupils to work hard and encourage parents to assist us in laying the important foundations for future learning.

Aims

In our school we aim to:

- Develop and strengthen each pupil's understanding and love of Catholic values by promoting the Catholic ethos throughout the school;
- Create a safe, enjoyable learning environment in which effective learning is facilitated and quality teaching is provided;
- Implement all aspects of the Northern Ireland Curriculum;
- Help our pupils to develop a positive attitude towards life and a love of learning;
- Value, respect and nurture every child in our care;
- Encourage pupils to respect themselves and others and to support and care for one another;
- Equip our children with the necessary life skills to enable them to participate in a fast changing society;
- Endorse the United Nations' Convention on the Rights of the Child and work towards the implementation of policies and practices which reflect the Convention;
- Involve the parents, Board of Governors and wider community in the life of the school and in the holistic development of the children in our care.

Carrick Primary School

First Aid and Medication Policy

Policy Statement

The Principal and Board of Governors of Carrick Primary School, Burren accept their responsibility under the Health and Safety (First Aid) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 1982 and acknowledge the importance of providing First Aid for employees, children and visitors within the School.

The staff of Carrick Primary School recognise their statutory duty to comply with the Reporting of Injuries, Diseases and Dangerous Occurrences Regulations (Northern Ireland) 1997 and agree to abide by the Education Authority's (EA) procedure for reporting accidents. The DE document 'Supporting Children with Medical Needs' has provided clear guidelines in the compiling and implementing of this policy

Introduction

'First Aid is the initial assistance or treatment given to someone who is injured or suddenly taken ill' (The Joint First Aid Manual 8th Edition). Staff administering First Aid should seek to assess the situation, protect themselves and the casualty from further danger, deal with any life threatening condition and, where necessary, obtain medical assistance or refer the casualty to hospital as quickly as possible.

The **First Aid Policy** at Carrick Primary School is in operation to ensure that every pupil, member of staff and visitor will be treated appropriately, in the event of an accident, no matter how minor or major.

Carrick Primary School's First Aid Team consists of: Mr S Murdock, Mrs O Doyle, Dr A Cassidy and Mrs A Duffin. The First Aid boxes are located in the Secretary's Office, Principal's Office, Mrs Duffin's classroom, Mr Murdock's classroom, Mrs Doyle's classroom, the ball store and in the staffroom. The names and the locations of the members of the First Aid Team and the location of the First Aid Boxes are displayed throughout the school.

It is emphasised that the First Aid Team consists of qualified First Aiders and not trained doctors or nurses. The term FIRST AIDER refers to those members of the school community who are in possession of a valid First Aid at Work certificate or equivalent.

The purpose of the First Aid Policy is therefore:

- To provide effective, safe First Aid cover for pupils, staff and visitors;

- To ensure that all staff and pupils are aware of the Policy and the action(s) to be taken in the event of an accident;
- To raise awareness of Health and Safety issues within school and on school trips and to prevent, where possible, potential dangers or accidents.

Statement of First Aid Provision

The School's arrangements for providing First Aid will: -

- Place a duty on the Principal and Board of Governors to approve, implement and review the First Aid policy;
- Place individual duties on all employees;
- Report and record accidents in liaison with the Principal/Vice Principal/Care and Welfare Coordinator and forward information to the EA/CCMS, where appropriate, using the School's Accident File (located in the Principal's Office);
- Record all occasions when First Aid is administered to employees, pupils and visitors;
- Provide equipment and materials to provide First Aid treatment;
- Make arrangements with EA to provide First Aid training to employees, maintain records of training and review annually;
- Establish a procedure for managing accidents in school which require First Aid treatment;
- Provide information to employees on the arrangements for First Aid;
- Undertake a risk assessment of the First Aid requirements of the school and review on a regular basis;
- Use the information from the risk assessment of First Aid to determine the number and level of trained staff and also any additional requirements (e.g. specialised training for children with particular medical needs);
- Where relevant, notify parents/guardians that first aid treatment was given to the child.

A standard First Aid Kit will contain the following items:

Sterile adhesive dressings (assorted sizes)

Triangular bandages

Eye pads

Safety pins

Sterile wound dressings

Disposable gloves

Bandages

Anti-Bacterial Wipes

Burns dressings

Plasters

The contents of the First Aid Kits will be checked each term by Dr A Cassidy, Mrs A Duffin, Mr S Murdock, and Mrs O Doyle.

Before and undertaking any off site activities, the level of First Aid provision will be assessed by the Principal and a First Aid Kit will be taken by staff on the trip, along with any individual children's Health Plans and/or medication boxes.

Information on First Aid Arrangements

The Principal will inform all employees at the school of the following: -

- The arrangements for recording and reporting of accidents;
- The arrangements for First Aid;
- Those employees who are qualified First Aiders;
- The location of the First Aid Kits.

In addition, the Principal will ensure that signs are displayed throughout the School providing the following information: -

- The names of the First Aiders;
- Their extension numbers;
- Location of the First Aid Boxes.

All members of staff will be made aware of the School's First Aid and Medication policy.

Accidents involving bumps to a Pupil's head

The consequence of an injury from an accident involving a bump or blow to a pupil's head/face area is not always evident immediately and the effects may only become noticeable after a period of time.

In all cases the parent/guardian will be contacted and notified of the child's injury. The parents will be invited to come to the school to assess the child's injury for themselves. Where the child remains in school, the staff will monitor him/her in case of any deterioration.

Transport to hospital or home

The Principal/Vice Principal will determine the appropriate action to be taken in each case. Where the injury requires urgent medical attention an ambulance will be called and the pupil's parent or guardian will be notified. If hospital treatment is required, then the pupil's parent/guardian will be called for them to take over responsibility. If no contact can be made with parent/guardian or other designated emergency contacts, then the Principal/Designated Adult will accompany the pupil to the hospital, if permitted by the ambulance staff.

ADMINISTRATION OF MEDICATION

In keeping with the school's Care and Welfare Policy, medication will only be administered on the school premises where and when it is deemed absolutely essential and after consultation between the Principal (Vice-Principal/or the Care and Welfare Co-ordinator in her absence) and the parent/guardian of the child concerned.

When a request to administer medication to a child is received from a parent, the following procedure will be followed:

- The Principal, or Vice-Principal discusses the request with the parent. If it is deemed appropriate to administer the medication, the parent will be asked to send in the name of the medication, the dosage and the period of duration and any other relevant information. These notes are to be signed by the parent and will be retained by the Principal in the Medical Records Book (see Appendix 1);
- The child's medication will be clearly labelled by the parent and/or GP with the child's name and dosage;
- The medication will be given by the parent/carer (NOT THE CHILD) to the Principal for safe storage;
- The only exceptions to the above procedure are children who have a particular medical condition e.g. peanut allergy etc. and for whom individual arrangements, including a Health Plan, are in place throughout the year.
- Details of all medication administered will be recorded in the Administration of Medicine Record Book which is kept in the Principal's Office or in the child's own Medical Records Notebook;
- Specific medical conditions which require ongoing or occasional medication should be noted appropriately on the child's *Contact Information Sheet*, which is completed at the start of September or as soon as possible after diagnosis;
- Medications should be stored in a box or container which is clearly labelled. These medical boxes are stored securely in the store of the child's classroom and, where relevant, in the main store in the reception area. The child's photograph, class and date of birth should be recorded on the lid of each box;

- Medication is never kept in any other area of the school, to prevent it being consumed accidentally by another child.

Implementation of the First Aid and Medication Policy will be monitored by the Principal, Vice Principal and Care and Welfare Coordinator, in consultation with staff, parents, children and Governors. Feedback will inform amendments, which will be incorporated as appropriate.

This policy forms part of the school's Care and Welfare Policy and also complements the school's Health and Safety Policy and the Drugs Policy, which promote the welfare of the children in our care. It will be formally evaluated every three years in consultation with pupils, parents, staff and Governors.

FIRST AIDERS will:

- Ensure that their First Aid training is current and is renewed when required;
- Ensure that first aid cover is available throughout the working hours of the school week and administer appropriate first aid when required;
- Always attend a casualty when requested to do so and treat the casualty to the best of their ability, in the safest way possible. This includes always wearing personal protective equipment, including gloves, especially where any loss of blood or body fluid is evident;
- Request help from other First Aiders and/or the Emergency Services when required;
- Help fellow First Aiders at the scene of an incident, where needed, and provide support afterwards;
- Insist that **any** casualty who has sustained a significant injury is seen by a professional at the GP's surgery or at the hospital, either by sending them directly to hospital or by asking parents or next of kin to take the casualty to the GP's surgery or hospital. Parents will be notified promptly of **all** head injuries and all significant injuries;
- Ensure that a child who is sent to hospital by ambulance is:
 1. Accompanied in the ambulance at the request of paramedics;
 2. Followed to the hospital by a member of staff to act in loco parentis if a relative cannot be contacted or is delayed;
 3. Met at the hospital by a relative.

The First Aider need not be the member of staff to accompany the casualty to hospital, in the event of a parent not being contactable. However, an appropriate staff member will be nominated.

- Ensure that a record is kept, in the school's Accident Book, of each pupil, staff member or visitor who has received First Aid, which details the nature of the injury and any treatment given;
- Ensure that all first aid resources which have been used are disposed of appropriately.

The Board of Governors will:

- Provide adequate First Aid cover as outlined in the Health & Safety [First Aid] Regulations 1982 (N.I);
- Approve, implement and review the First Aid Policy;
- Monitor and respond to all matters relating to the health and safety of all persons on the school premises;
- Ensure all new staff members are made aware of the First Aid Policy, the Health and Safety procedures and the defibrillator procedures in school.

The Principal will:

- Ensure that the school has a current information form for every pupil and staff member which indicates any specific conditions or medications, of which the school should be aware;
- Ensure that all staff members are made aware of the medical and/or First Aid requirements of staff and pupils (where relevant), are aware of the First Aid and Medication Policy and are also aware of the arrangements for recording and reporting accidents;
- Ensure that this First Aid Policy is implemented fully in Carrick Primary School;
- Ensure that there are signs displayed throughout the school with the following information – the names of the First Aiders and their extension numbers and also the location of the First Aid Kits;
- Ensure through termly checks, that the school's First Aid boxes are appropriately stocked and that all First Aid resources are "in date";
- Ensure that First Aid training qualifications are current and are renewed when required;
- Ensure that, in the event of injury, the injured party **must** be referred to a First Aider for examination and where necessary, to parents and/or to relevant professionals;
- At the start of each academic year, provide the First Aid Team and all relevant staff, with a list of pupils who are known to have any significant illnesses or conditions;
- Ensure that the defibrillator is checked on a weekly basis to ensure that it is in working order and that a record of these checks is maintained;
- Maintain a file of up to date medical health plans and relevant medicines and ensure that these are readily available for staff members and for staff responsible for school trips/outings;
- Ensure, where possible, that the relevant staff members are trained in relation to the administration of medication, which may be required by specific pupils or staff members with medical conditions;

- Ensure that records of all First Aid training are maintained;
- Ensure that all classes are supervised in the event of a class teacher being absent from class, as the result of a First Aid incident;
- Report any significant “First Aid” incidents to the relevant authorities (where appropriate).

STAFF MEMBERS will:

- Familiarise themselves with the school’s First Aid and Medication Policy as well as the school’s Defibrillator procedures and will ensure that they are aware of who the current First Aiders are;
- Be aware of the specific medical needs of particular individual pupils and attend relevant training in relation to these medical needs;
- Ensure that all pupils are aware of the school’s First Aid and Defibrillator procedures;
- Never move a casualty, until they have been assessed by a qualified First Aider, unless the casualty is in immediate danger;
- Send for the help of a First Aider when an injury occurs, as soon as possible, either by a person or telephone, ensuring that the messenger knows the precise location of the casualty. Where possible, confirmation that the message has been received must be obtained;
- Accompany a pupil who has a minor injury to a First Aider (where appropriate);
- Send for an ambulance when a significant accident occurs;
- Have due regard for personal safety at all times.

Monitoring and Reviewing

The implementation of this policy will be monitored by the First Aid Team, the Principal and the Governors. This policy will be reviewed every three years in consultation with pupils, parents, staff and Governors, taking into account new initiatives, changes in the curriculum, changes in the law and/or changes to the First Aid Team in Carrick Primary School.

Signed: Mr G Murdock (Chairperson of the Board of Governors)

Signed: Dr A Cassidy (Principal)

Date: December 2023

Review Date: December 2026

APPENDIX 1

Carrick Primary School

AUTHORISATION TO ADMINISTER MEDICATION

I consent to medication i.e.

.....(name of medication) being administered

.....(dosage) to my child (name of child).

I have provided the following amount of medication

to be used for the period of

The medication will be administered by Dr A Cassidy, Mrs A Duffin, Mr S Murdock or Mrs Doyle for the period stipulated. It will be my responsibility to inform the school of any changes to the agreed arrangements.

Parent's Signature: _____ Date: _____